

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 191794

EXDIS

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TAGS: PPDC, MZ, US

SUBJECT:LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT MACHEL

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT TEXT OF FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PRESIDENT
CARTER DATED JULY 25, 1978, TO PRESIDENT MACHEL: BEGIN
TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR RECENT
MESSAGE,WHICH WAS CONVEYED TO ME, THROUGH SECRETARY
VANCE, BY AMBASSADOR BOMANI.

I WAS PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED BY YOUR HOPES FOR WARMER
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MOZAMBIQUE. THIS
IS A GOAL WHICH I SHARE FULLY WITH YOU. OUR COUNTRIES
HAVE IMPORTANT COMMON INTERESTS IN A PEACEFUL TRANSITION
TO MAJORITY RULE THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA AND IN THE
BETTERMENT AND ENRICHMENT OF THE LIVES OF ALL THE PEOPLE
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OF THAT REGION. AND BEYOND THAT, AS I KNOW FROM OUR
NEW YORK CONVERSATION, WE SHARE A FIRM DEDICATION TO THE
GOAL OF A MORE JUST AND PEACEFUL WORLD. THESE ARE STRONG
BASES ON WHICH TO BUILD.

IN THE BILATERAL SPHERE, AS YOU KNOW, THE UNITED STATES
HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO BEGIN AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH

MOZAMBIQUE. I DEEPLY REGRET THIS AND HOPE WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO SO IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

IN THE MEANWHILE, THE OUTLOOK IS PROMISING IN THE FIELDS OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT. THESE, OVER THE LONG RUN, ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN AID PROGRAMS. OUR EXPORT-IMPORT BANK HAS GIVEN A PRELIMINARY COMMITMENT FOR ITS FIRST LOAN TO MOZAMBIQUE, AND I HOPE THAT TWO-WAY TRADE BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE. I UNDERSTAND REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN BUSINESS CONCERNS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE BEEN VISITING MOZAMBIQUE IN RECENT MONTHS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO CONSTRUCTIVE, MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY INVOLVEMENT BY THE AMERICAN PRIVATE SECTOR IN MOZAMBIQUE'S DEVELOPMENT.

THE PATTERN OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS HAS DEEPLY CONCERNED ME. NOT ONLY DOES IT POSE DANGERS FOR THE STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTINENT, IT ALSO HAS A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON ISSUES BEYOND THE CONFINES OF AFRICA, INCLUDING ONE THAT WE HAVE DISCUSSED EARLIER, INDIAN OCEAN ARMS CONTROL. RECENT EVENTS IN THE HORN AND THE ACCOMPANYING INCREASE IN THE LEVEL OF SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE AREA WERE OF SPECIAL CONCERN IN VIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WERE UNDERWAY TO STABILIZE US AND SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WE CONTINUED
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TO MAINTAIN OUR OWN NAVAL PRESENCE AT A NORMAL LEVEL, BUT THE SOVIET ACTIONS COULD ONLY RAISE QUESTIONS IN OUR MIND WHETHER AN EFFECTIVE AGREEMENT COULD BE NEGOTIATED AND FIND THE NECESSARY PUBLIC SUPPORT IN THE UNITED STATES TO BE RATIFIED.

I AM DETERMINED TO DO ALL THAT I CAN TO KEEP AFRICA FROM BECOMING THE SCENE OF COMPETITION BETWEEN CONTENDING IDEOLOGIES AND EXTERNAL FORCES. THE ROLE OF OUTSIDERS MUST BE TO FACILITATE AFRICAN SOLUTIONS, NOT TO EXPLOIT AFRICAN PROBLEMS TO THEIR OWN ADVANTAGE. FOR THIS REASON WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF AFRICAN STATES, WORKING TOGETHER AND THROUGH THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, TO FIND PEACEFUL, JUST AND LASTING SOLUTIONS TO THE CONTINENT'S PROBLEMS. ON ISSUES SUCH AS RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA, YOUR ADVICE AND ACTIVE ROLE--AND THAT OF YOUR FRONT LINE COLLEAGUES--HAS BEEN THE KEY TO INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENTS.

OUR ROLE IN S;ASA, FOLLOWING SUPPORT FOR THE HUMANITARIAN EFFORT AT KOLWEZI, FOCUSSED ON AIRLIFTING AFRICAN TROOPS

TO REPLACE FRENCH AND BELGIAN FORCES. A LONGER-TERM
SOLUTION MUST INCLUDE RECONCILIATION BETWEEN ZAIRE

AND ANGOLA. AS YOU KNOW, AMBASSADOR DONALD MCHENRY
RECENTLY VISITED LUANDA FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME
MINISTER DO NASCIMENTO AND OTHER ANGOLAN OFFICIALS. WE
HAVE ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU, AND I HOPE
THAT THE TWO SIDES WILL FIND WAYS TO BRIDGE THEIR
DIFFERENCES.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT YOU AND OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS WHO
ATTENDED THE OAU MEETING IN KHARTOUM HAVE HAD THE
OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP EFFECTIVE COURSES OF
ACTION FOR DEALING WITH THESE AND OTHER URGENT PROBLEMS
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AFFECTING THE CONTINENT. YOU CAN COUNT ON OUR WHOLE-
HEARTED SUPPORT.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR MESSAGE. LET US KEEP IN CLOSE
TOUCH. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT.

2. SIGNED ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY. VANCE

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